

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MANILA NIACT IMMEDIATE

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EXDIS FOR BERGLAND FROM HATHAWAY AND WHITE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, RP

SUBJECT: SECRETARY BERGLAND'S WFC SPEECH

FOLLOWING IS ALTERNATIVE TEXT FOR WORLD FOOD COUNCIL SPEECH
DESIGNED TO REFLECT MEMO FROM MR. BRZEZINSKI. AS PROMISED,
I AM SENDING IT FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION. IT HAS BEEN
REVIEWED BY REPRESENTATIVES FROM STATE, TREASURY, STR, AND
CEA. THE FIRST SPEECH TRANSMITTED AS STATE 140774 AND
AMENDED IN SEPARATE TELEGRAM IS CLEARLY PREFERRED BY THIS
GROUP. THE GROUP BELIEVES THAT THE FIRST SPEECH ADEQUATELY
REFLECTS POINTS MADE IN BRZEZINSKI MEMO.

ALTHOUGH THIS ALTERNATIVE TEXT DOES NOT INCLUDE ANY POINTS
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UNACCEPTABLE TO THE ABOVE AGENCIES, STATE IS UNABLE TO
OFFICIALLY CLEAR TWO SPEECHES.

IF YOU PREFER THIS ALTERNATIVE VERSION, WE WOULD NEED TO
BE ADVISED IMMEDIATELY TO SEEK INTERAGENCY CLEARANCE.

1. IT IS A GREAT PERSONAL HONOR TO REPRESENT THE UNITED
STATES AT THIS THIRD ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WORLD FOOD
COUNCIL.

2. THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF OUR COUNCIL -- SAYED MAREI -- IS TO BE CONGRATULATED FOR HIS LEADERSHIP AND DEDICATION TO THIS ORGANIZATION. I AM CERTAIN THAT HIS DETERMINED, THOUGHTFUL LEADERSHIP WILL CONTINUE UNDER OUR NEW PRESIDENT SECRETARY TANCO -- WHOSE CONTRIBUTIONS TO AGRICULTURE IN HIS OWN COUNTRY ARE SO WIDELY RECOGNIZED AND PRAISED.

3. IT ALSO IS AN HONOR FOR ME TO REPRESENT THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, JIMMY CARTER, AT THIS CONFERENCE ON WORLD FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, FOR, AS A FARMER MYSELF, I HAVE A DEEP AND ABIDING INTEREST IN THE PROBLEMS OF GROWING

CROPS; OF ADJUSTING TO NEW PRODUCTION METHODS; OF FIGHTING PESTS AND DISEASE.

4. AS A DELEGATE TO THIS COUNCIL, I AM HERE TO ADDRESS WHAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT BELIEVES IS A BASIC "HUMAN RIGHT." IT IS THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE AND NUTRITIOUS FOOD; PERHAPS THE MOST BASIC HUMAN RIGHT OF THEM ALL.

5. THIS IS ONE OF THE MAJOR ISSUES ON THE NORTH-SOUTH AGENDA; FOCUSING OUR ENERGIES AND RESOURCES TO HELP THE ONE BILLION PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WHO LIVE IN ABSOLUTE POVERTY. TOO OFTEN WE SPEAK IN THE LANGUAGE OF STATISTICS WHEN WE DISCUSS POVERTY. AT TIMES WE FORGET THAT THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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NUMBERS ARE REAL HUMAN BEINGS WHO SUFFER FROM REAL HUNGER, MALNUTRITION-WHO OFTEN FACE DEATH AS AN INFANT OR YOUNG ADULT.

6. AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE UNITED STATES' FOREIGN POLICY IS TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE AND TO WORK WITH OTHER NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS TO DESIGN AND EXECUTE PROGRAMS TO MEET THE BASIC HUMAN REQUIREMENTS OF THE POOREST PEOPLE.

7. AS PRESIDENT CARTER SAID JUST LAST MONTH, "WE KNOW A PEACEFUL WORLD CANNOT LONG EXIST ONE-THIRD RICH AND TWO-THIRDS HUNGRY."

8. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS SESSION OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL WILL SOLVE ALL FOOD-RELATED ISSUES THIS WEEK OR THIS YEAR. BUT IN THIS FORUM WE CAN AND SHOULD REAFFIRM OUR COMMON COMMITMENT TO THE GOAL OF PROVIDING ADEQUATE FOOD FOR ALL PEOPLE.

9. THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL IS THE HIGHEST POLITICAL BODY DEALING EXCLUSIVELY WITH ISSUES OF FOOD. IT IS THE FORUM WHERE THESE ISSUES CAN BE DEFINED AND DISCUSSED AND COURSES OF ACTION RECOMMENDED TO APPROPRIATE NATIONAL AND

INTERNATIONAL BODIES.

10. I NEED NOT REMIND YOU OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS THIRD ANNUAL MEETING. THE USEFULNESS OF THIS SESSION MIGHT WELL DETERMINE THE FUTURE OF THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL. WE MUST NOT MISUSE THIS OPPORTUNITY.

11. FOOD MUST BE A PRIME AREA FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, NOT INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT. FOOD PROBLEMS MUST BRING FORTH THE BEST OF OUR INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL POLITICAL COMMITMENTS. FOOD MUST NOT BE REGARDED AS A WEAPON OR AS AN ISSUE WHICH DIVIDES US IN EITHER PURPOSE OR ACTION.

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12. EVEN THOUGH THE WORLD'S GRAIN STOCKS INCREASED MORE LAST YEAR THAN IN ANY SINGLE YEAR IN HISTORY AND EVEN THOUGH THE WORLD PRICE FOR GRAIN HAS FALLEN SHARPLY, HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN ARE STILL MALNOURISHED AND HUNGRY.

13. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, THROUGH THIS COUNCIL AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL BODIES, INTENDS TO BE A PARTNER IN WORLD EFFORTS TO SEARCH FOR SOLUTIONS TO THESE PROBLEMS.

14. FAILURE IS UNACCEPTABLE.

15. WE STRONGLY SUPPORT RECENT EFFORTS TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO MEET BASIC HUMAN NEEDS. JUST AS IMPORTANT AS INCREASES IN PRODUCTION IS IMPROVED DISTRIBUTION TO ENSURE THAT FOOD ACTUALLY REACHES HUNGRY PEOPLE.

16. I WELCOME THE EFFORTS OF THE CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION, WHICH PLACED EMPHASIS ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. THE CONFERENCE REAFFIRMED THE NEED FOR GREATER EFFORTS BY ALL COUNTRIES TO ACHIEVE HIGHER FOOD PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE CONFERENCE MADE A MAJOR CONTRIBUTION TO ESTABLISHING A ONE BILLION DOLLAR INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. IT ALSO FURTHERED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 500,000 METRIC TON INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY RESERVE COORDINATED BY THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM. PARTICIPANTS STRONGLY SUPPORTED ESTABLISHING AN INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM OF NATIONALLY HELD GRAIN RESERVES. AND IT TOOK ACTION TO IMPROVE THE AVAILABILITY OF ESSENTIAL AGRICULTURAL INPUTS. AGREEMENTS WERE REACHED ON CRITICAL ISSUES WHICH NEED NOT BE DEBATED AGAIN IN THIS SESSION. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT REGARDS THESE ACTIONS AS SIGNIFICANT AND HELPFUL IN CONTINUING DISCUSSIONS WITHIN THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL.

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17. THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO CONTRIBUTE TO PROGRAMS THAT PROMOTE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. OUR PRINCIPAL CONCERN IN THE AREA OF ASSISTANCE IS THAT RECIPIENT NATIONS DISPLAY A FIRM CONCERN FOR THE BASIC HUMAN NEEDS OF THEIR PEOPLE.

18. SINCE PASSAGE OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1974, WE HAVE CONCENTRATED OUR EFFORTS ON HELPING THE POOREST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. MORE THAN HALF OF THE UNITED STATES' BILATERAL ASSISTANCE HAS BEEN DIRECTED TOWARD IMPROVING FOOD SUPPLIES AND NUTRITION.

19. CURRENTLY BEFORE OUR CONGRESS IS THE U.S. BILATERAL AID PROGRAM WHICH WOULD, IF ENACTED IN ITS PRESENT FORM, PROVIDE OVER 700 MILLION DOLLARS FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. THE UNITED STATES ALSO PLANS TO RATIFY THE FIFTH REPLENISHMENT OF THE WORLD BANK'S INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION. THE IDA DISBURSES ABOUT 30 PERCENT OF ITS FUNDS ON CONCESSIONARY TERMS FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS IN THE NEEDIEST COUNTRIES. OUR SHARE WILL BE 2.4 BILLION DOLLARS IN THE NEXT THREE YEARS. WE ALSO HAVE PLEDGED 200 MILLION DOLLARS TO THE INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

20. THESE INITIATIVES ARE IMPORTANT, FOR THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES THAT INCREASED FOOD PRODUCTION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IS VITAL IF WE ARE TO HAVE LONG-TERM WORLD FOOD SECURITY. ACHIEVING GREATER CAPACITY IS NOT EASY. WE CERTAINLY DO NOT PROPOSE THAT DEVELOPING NATIONS NECESSARILY ADOPT WESTERN AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES. CAPITAL-INTENSIVE FARMING TECHNIQUES MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE IN MANY NATIONS. IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO REMEMBER THE NECESSITY TO CREATE MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE POOR, THREE-QUARTERS OF WHOM LIVE IN RURAL AREAS.

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21. A SECOND NECESSARY ELEMENT OF WORLD FOOD SECURITY IS RESERVE STOCKS TO SERVE AS "INSURANCE" WHEN FOOD PRODUCTION FALLS BECAUSE OF WEATHER OR OTHER ADVERSITY. RESERVES HELP MODERATE COMMODITY PRICE SWINGS. EXTREME PRICE FLUCTUATIONS DISRUPT DEVELOPMENT PLANNING IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; THEY ALSO CREATE SEVERE HARDSHIPS FOR THE POOR EVERYWHERE.

22. A DEMONSTRATION OF THE UNITED STATES' COMMITMENT TO WORLD FOOD SECURITY IS OUR ESTABLISHMENT OF A DOMESTIC

FOODGRAIN

RESERVE. IT IS APPROPRIATE TO BEGIN THIS RESERVE NOW WHEN SUPPLIES OF BASIC FOODGRAINS, NAMELY WHEAT AND RICE, ARE ABUNDANT AND PRICES ARE LOW. THIS RESERVE OF APPROXIMATELY 8 MILLION METRIC TONS WILL BE RETURNED TO THE MARKET DURING PERIODS OF SHORT SUPPLIES. WE COMMEND SIMILAR ACTIONS BY OTHER COUNTRIES.

23. AGAIN, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE UNITED STATES ALONE, OR ONLY A FEW NATIONS, CAN CARRY THE ENTIRE OBLIGATION OF FOOD SECURITY FOR THE WORLD. FURTHER, I DO NOT THINK THE DEVELOPING NATIONS WOULD WANT FOOD SECURITY TO BE IN THE HANDS OF ONLY A FEW NATIONS. WE BELIEVE THIS RESPONSIBILITY MUST BE SHARED BY FOOD-IMPORTING NATIONS

AS WELL AS FOOD-EXPORTING NATIONS.

24. THE UNITED STATES HOPES THE INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL SOON CAN LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR DETAILED NEGOTIATION OF AN AGREEMENT TO INCLUDE AN INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM OF NATIONALLY-HELD RESERVE STOCKS.

25. OUR POSITION IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE THAT A WORLD FOOD SECURITY SYSTEM SHOULD INCLUDE: (A) AN ACCUMULATION AND RELEASE MECHANISM FOR RESERVE STOCKS DESIGNED TO REDUCE WIDE PRICE FLUCTUATIONS AROUND THE LONG-TERM MARKET TREND. WE ARE WILLING TO CONSIDER PRICE INDICATIONS
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TORS TO TRIGGER STOCK ACTIONS, (B) A METHOD TO SHARE THE COST OF RESERVE STOCKS AMONG BOTH EXPORTING AND IMPORTING NATIONS WITH SPECIAL PROVISIONS TO ENABLE POOR NATIONS TO PARTICIPATE, (C) PROVISIONS FOR GMAINTAIN TRADE LIBERALIZATION TO HELP PERMIT NECESSARY PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION ADJUSTMENTS WHEN SUPPLIES ARE IN SURPLUS AND/OR ARE SCARCE.

26. WE RECOGNIZE THE PROBLEMS TO BE FACED IN NEGOTIATING A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE PLAN TO ENSURE FOOD SECURITY. BUT TODAY, WHEN SUPPLIES ARE RELATIVELY PLENTIFUL, WE MUST PREPARE FOR THE DAY WHEN HARVESTS ARE POOR. THE WORLD NEED NOT SUFFER ONCE AGAIN THE HARSHSHIPS OF THE WORLD FOOD CRISIS OF 1972-1974 -- IF THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD WORK TOGETHER.

27. THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF FOOD AID TO PEOPLE OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. WE REALIZE THAT FOOD AID SHOULD BE DESIGNED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE POOR, NOT THE SURPLUS-DISPOSAL NEEDS OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. WE HAVE BEGUN A MAJOR REVIEW OF OUR FOOD-AID PROGRAMS TO IMPROVE THEIR EFFECTIVENESS.

28. WE NOW ARE WORKING TO IMPROVE OUR ABILITY TO MAINTAIN

FOOD AID LEVELS EVEN WHEN WE HAVE A TIGHT SUPPLY SITUATION. OUR FOODGRAIN RESERVES ARE ONE MEANS TO DO SO. WE WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO MAINTAIN OUR TOTAL LEVEL OF FOOD

AID AT A FAIR SHARE OF THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE TARGET OF 10 MILLION METRIC TONS. WE NOW ARE INITIATING PLANS TO MAKE GREATER USE OF FOOD AID AS A DEVELOPMENTAL TOOL BY ENTERING MULTI-YEAR ARRANGEMENTS TO SUPPORT AGRI- "ULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS. ALSO, WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE AT LEAST 75 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL UNITED STATES' FOOD AID TO THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POOREST NATIONS, AS A BASIC PART OF OUR HUMAN RIGHTS INITIATIVES.

MOREOVER, OUR GOVERNMENT RECENTLY HAS AGREED TO CONTRIBUTE UP TO 125,000 METRIC TONS TO THE INTERNATIONAL EMERGENCY FOOD RESERVE

29. ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES, I URGE YOUR NATIONS TO JOIN IN THESE EFFORTS TO MEET OUR COMMON GOAL. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE WILL RECOGNIZE THAT EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ARE ONLY EFFECTIVE IN COMBINATION WITH COMMITMENTS FROM, AND INVESTMENTS BY, THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THEMSELVES.

30. AS DELEGATES FROM NATIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, WE HAVE AN UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY THAT MAY NOT PASS OUR WAY AGAIN. AS PRESIDENT CARTER STATED BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS, "THE SEARCH FOR PEACE ALSO MEANS THE SEARCH FOR JUSTICE. ONE OF THE GREATEST CHALLENGES BEFORE US AS A NATION -- AND THEREFORE ONE OF OUR GREATEST OPPORTUNITIES -- IS TO PARTICIPATE IN MOLDING A GLOBAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM WHICH WILL BRING GREATER PROSPERITY TO ALL THE PEOPLE OF ALL COUNTRIES."

31. I BELIEVE WE MUST RECOMMIT OURSELVES TO THE VERY IMPORTANT GOALS ESTABLISHED BY THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE IN 1974.

32. YOUR NATIONS AND OURS CAN BE FULL PARTNERS IN THE MOST IMPORTANT EFFORTS OF THIS CENTURY. IT IS WITHIN OUR POWER TO ELIMINATE HUNGER FROM OUR WORLD.

NOTE: IN PARAGRAPH 27, FIRST SENTENCE SHOULD READ "THE UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF FOOD AID TO THE POOREST PEOPLE OF . . ." VANCE

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